

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully traverses and requests reconsideration.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the Notice that claim 17 is allowed and that claims 4-16 are objected to and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1-3, 7, 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Yun et al. The Yun reference is directed to a gain control circuit for a low noise amplifier that uses a control voltage to disable a feedback circuit and an attenuation circuit 302, thereby increasing the gain of the amplifier on a low input signal strength as present. As the signal strength becomes higher, the gain control voltage also increases, enabling the operation of the feedback circuit and the attenuation circuit to improve the linearity of the circuit. (See e.g. Col. 3, lines 35-43)

Applicants claim a different structure and method. For example, Applicants claim a gain control circuit and a feedback circuit that produces a gain control signal in response to an output signal and the gain control circuit reduces the amplitude of the intermediate signal to decrease a gain in the variable gain control amplifier and increase the amplitude of the intermediate signal to increase the gain of the variable control amplifier. In contrast, the Yun reference actually teaches disabling the feedback circuit and the attenuation circuit during low input voltage conditions. Moreover, the attenuation circuit 302 does not increase the gain of the amplifier, but is only turned on to decrease the gain. As such, the alleged transistor T1 can not be read as the claimed gain control circuit. Accordingly, the claims are in condition for allowance. In addition, claim 2 requires that the gain control signal be such that an amplitude of the output signal remains substantially constant for input signals above a certain level. It does not appear that the cited reference includes such a gain control circuit. Accordingly, this claim is also independently allowable. The other dependent claims add additional novel and nonobvious subject matter also.

Claims 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yun et al. Applicants respectfully reassert the relevant remarks made above with respect to claim 1. As such, claim 18 and 19 are also allowable at least for these reasons.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the below-listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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